

7-1-1986

## UA68/6/1 English Department Newsletter

WKU English

Follow this and additional works at: [http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc\\_ua\\_records](http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_ua_records)



Part of the [Education Commons](#), and the [English Language and Literature Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

WKU English, "UA68/6/1 English Department Newsletter" (1986). *WKU Archives Records*. Paper 1124.  
[http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc\\_ua\\_records/1124](http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_ua_records/1124)

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by TopSCHOLAR®. It has been accepted for inclusion in WKU Archives Records by an authorized administrator of TopSCHOLAR®. For more information, please contact [connie.foster@wku.edu](mailto:connie.foster@wku.edu).



Issue No. 1  
Summer, 1986

## Western Kentucky University

# ENGLISH DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

## From the Department Head

**To: All friends of the WKU English Department**  
**From: Joe Millichap**

Our first *Newsletter* should make all members of our English department's "extended" family feel proud. Our collective achievements over the last two years have proved significant, and they promise to develop even further in the years ahead. I am very happy to be head of such a productive department.

Our major accomplishments have been the curricular innovations we have put in place over the last two years. Most importantly, we have carefully rethought our general education offerings, creating a new vertical structure consisting of a freshman-level writing course, sophomore-level literature course, and junior-level interdisciplinary composition course. Each of these courses presents a thorough reassessment of departmental goals for Western's general education students.

Our new configuration of courses will be supported by a revamped remedial/development program. Our remedial course has been rethought, a developmental section has been added to the freshman course, and the Writing Center will present an enhanced program. In the future we hope to add a computer-based instruction to our lab in order to increase our efficiency.

Within the English major itself we have designed a writing option, which will complement both our literature option in the major and our writing minor. I am sure that the writing options will continue the growth in the number of majors which we have experienced in the last two years. Between spring semester, 1984, and spring semester,

1986, our majors and minors increased by about 38%, by far the greatest increase in Potter College.

Our graduate program has experienced similar growth over the last two years. Our new Teaching English as a Second Language Concentration has undoubtedly added most of our increase. A new writing concentration in the graduate program beginning next year will add to our growth.

The students who are majoring in our programs are also better students, with higher test scores and grade point averages. For example, our undergraduate majors and minors average 21.3 on the ACT test against a university average of 18.4, while their GPA is 3.08 against a university mark of 2.65. Our graduate majors average 565 on the verbal GRE with 1582 overall average, one of the highest in the university.

Our faculty also continues to

distinguish itself in teaching, in research, in creative and other professional activity, and in service to the University and the public. Our teaching evaluations are well above the university average, and all other measures indicate we are doing an excellent job in the classroom. Our publication of scholarly, critical and creative work has almost doubled in the last two years as well. And our service to the University and the community has increased through developing activities such as the Southern Kentucky English Council, the expanded Hot Line, the High School Competition and our new Writing Across the Curriculum effort.

We have also completed several major reports recently. Last year we did our five-year review for the Council on Higher Education, a report now used as a model for other programs. This year we projected our goals five years into the future in the Strategic Planning Report. I wrote a conclusion to my annual report which might also provide a good exit here:

"All in all, we have made some significant developments in the last two years. I think it safe to say that English is alive and well at Western."

## English Major with a Writing Option

An English major with a writing option will become a reality in September, 1986. The Creative Writing Committee began developing an undergraduate option in writing two years ago. After the committee's proposal was reviewed by a departmental *ad hoc* review committee, it was presented to the entire English department and was enthusiastically approved.

The Creative Writing Committee

prepared writing option course descriptions which the Academic Council approved this summer. Everything will be in place by the fall semester, 1986, and we are sure that we will have many recruits for this new program—English with a Writing Option—because the program will serve student needs as professional preparation in many fields.

(Information supplied by Wanda Gatlin.)



## High School Competition

About 600 students from 28 schools competed for honors in English language, literature and composition in WKU's ninth annual High School English Competition on April 4.

Competitors took objective and essay tests in seven categories. Cash awards were presented to the first, second and

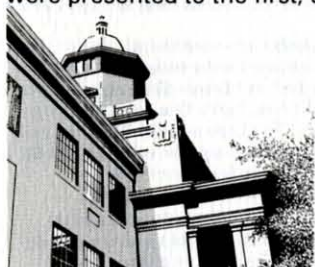
third place winners in each category. This year, for the first time, a team prize was awarded to the school with the greatest number of winners in the individual categories. The prize, a trophy, is known as the Ethel Craig Memorial Award, in honor of a long-time member of the English faculty at Bowling Green High School.

Individual first-place winners and their schools were Clint Lyle, Allen County/Scottsville, British

literature; Stacey Johnson, Barren County, American literature; Debbie Kersey, North Hardin, grammar, punctuation and usage; Donna Cherry, Warren East, comprehensive literature; Elizabeth Chamberlain, Adair County, spelling and vocabulary; Lee Branstetter, Glasgow, expository writing; and Jim Jernigan, Monroe County, writing about literature.

The team prize was won by Warren East High School.

(Information supplied by Pauline Jones.)



## Faculty News

### Faculty Feature: Mary Ellen Miller

Each edition of this newsletter will feature a member of the WKU English faculty, starting with Mary Ellen Miller, a member of the English faculty since 1963. Mary Ellen excels in teaching, in research/publication, and in university and public service.

Mary Ellen and Alice Rowe have taught a special 055/101 combination course for several years and usually give a couple of presentations a year on their work at professional meetings. For example, in October they presented "Building on Our Success in Developmental English" at a conference of the Kentucky Association of

Educational Opportunity Program Personnel in Louisville. They are very proud of the achievements of their 055/101 graduates, who usually do well in subsequent years. At least one now has his Ph.D.

Mary Ellen is a prolific publisher of poems, reviews and articles. She is the American poetry reviewer for the *Canadian Book Review Annual* and usually does about eight reviews of contemporary Canadian poetry a year. In 1985 her article on "Marsha Norman" was published in *Dictionary of Literary Biography*, and her essay review of John Ashbery's *A Wave* was published in *Magill's Literary Annual*. Her research into poetry culminated in the production of a videotape *Poetry: A*

*Beginner's Guide*, which won second place in the instructional category at the American Film Festival in New York in 1985. She is now working on a videotape *Fiction: A Beginner's Guide*.

Mary Ellen, a past member of the Bowling Green Human Rights Commission and the Governor's Task Force on Education, is now serving as the faculty representative on the WKU Board of Regents. Besides serving on about 20 departmental and university committees, she serves on four Board of Regents committees: International Education (chair), Executive, Finance and Academics.

Mary Ellen Miller is a very busy and very productive member of the English department.

**Joe Boggs** has received a \$5,000 grant to study the Canadian film industry. In conjunction with WKU's Canadian Studies Program, Joe will spend three months in Canada this summer to research "Censorship and Other Forces Which Shape the Canadian Theatrical Film."

**Hoyt Bowen** again this year (as he has for the past five years) organized a Shakespearean Festival in conjunction with a live performance of a Shakespearean play at the Capitol Arts Center. Hoyt lectured and developed a study guide this year on "As You Like It."

**Earlene Cantrell** has joined the department as secretary to the department head, replacing Pat Nave. She has worked in the departments of library science and computer science. Her husband, Dick, is a member of the economics faculty, and they have four children, including one student at Western.

**Ann Cravens** continues her excellent work as secretary to the program directors. Her daughter, Alicia, is now a student worker in our department.

**Lou-Ann Crouther** spoke at an awards luncheon celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Cleveland Youth Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs. She read a paper on "Searching for Self-Fulfillment: Two Women in Search of People Instead of Things" at KPA in March.

**Nancy Davis** presented a paper on "Sexual

"Varietism" in Dreiser's *The Financier*, *The Titan*, and *The Stoic* at the Popular Culture Association Annual Meeting in Atlanta in April.

**Ron Eckard** presented the paper "Roleplays that Get Your ESL Students Talking" at the Southeast Regional TESOL conference in Atlanta in October. His review of *Computers, Language Learning and Language Teaching* appeared in the February issue of the *TESOL Newsletter*. He has two articles accepted for publication this spring: "Rationale for Oral Language Proficiency Testing" in the spring issue of *The Bluegrass Bulletin* and "A Crash Course in Krashen" in the May issue of the *Kentucky TESOL Newsletter*.

In 1983-84 Ron received a Fulbright grant to teach in Turkey. He was assigned to teach various courses in the graduate English Language Teaching program at Middle East Technical University in Ankara. In the summer of 1984 he served as teacher trainer at the Fulbright Summer English Seminar in Istanbul, a training program for secondary English teachers from throughout Turkey.

**Ann Fields** serves on the University Coop Education Committee. In this position she visits government agencies and private businesses to develop potential internships for English majors and minors. She also serves as the director of the department's SPAN program, a dual credit high school/college course.

Ann made two presentations on "Writing in the Workplace," at the Southeastern Conference on English in the Two-Year College in Memphis in February and at KCTE in Louisville in March. She also participated in two workshops held by the Nashville chapter of IABC, on types of business communications.

**Jim Flynn**, the recipient of the University Service Award at the 1985 commencement ceremonies, has an article "Upscale Graciousness: A Thematic Approach to *Southern Living*" in *Studies in Popular Culture*. Jim's bibliographical essay on "Richard Lovelace" appeared in the recent *Research Guide to Biography and Criticism*. He has presented papers recently at the Fifth Citadel Conference on Language and Literature and the Popular Culture Association in the South meeting. He is on the program of the spring meeting of the National Popular Culture Association in Atlanta. Also, he was one of the teachers of the "Dante and the Medieval World" seminar for high school teachers to be held this summer at Western. Jim also led a study trip to England. This fall Jim will read "Prudence: concept and character in Chaucer's *Tale of Melibee*," at the Medieval Association of the Midwest Conference.

**Will Fridy** spoke to the English Honors Forum on "Latin Poetry" in February. He is the outgoing treasurer of KPA and headed the local committee which planned the 13th annual meeting of KPA, held on WKU's campus March 7-8. (continued)



## Graduate Program

The status of the graduate program is good. Now third largest in the state, the program has expanded its offering while maintaining high quality. M.A. candidates may now choose one of three concentrations: British and American literature, which remains the core of the program and is elected by most of the graduate assistants; Teaching English as a Second Language, which is thriving,

with five federally supported graduate assistants and several other full-time and part-time students; and Writing, which the department recently adopted and is now going into effect.

Enrollment in the M.A. program has increased from eight full-time and 13 part-time students in the spring semester of 1984 to 26 full-time and 13 part-time students last semester. During the same period, English majors and minors in the M.A. in education program increased from 13 to 15. The number of students completing the M.A. in 1984 was seven. A sharp increase in the number of graduates should come

during this calendar year, when at least 15 students will take their M.A. oral examinations. One of these students is completing the M.A. in education with an English major, eight candidates for the M.A. in English are completing the non-thesis option; nine candidates are now writing their theses.

We will award several graduate assistantships for next year; the stipend for graduate assistants has been increased to \$4000. English majors and minors graduating in May or August with a GPA of 3.0 or above are eligible to apply.

*(Information supplied by Lee Little.)*

## English Awards/Scholarships

Awards and scholarships given by the WKU English department include the following:

Gordon Wilson Award for Academic Excellence (awarded to a senior)—Joe Bolton, 1985; Tracy Ford, 1986

Frank L. Atkinson Scholarship Award (awarded to a senior)—Tracy Ford,

1985; Alicia Neat, 1986

Gordon Wilson Scholarship Award (awarded to a senior)—Doug Logsdon, 1985; Pamela Lynn Barrett, 1986

Mary Lucille Scott Scholarship Award (awarded to a freshman English major)—La Nita Stinson, 1985; La Nita Stinson, 1986

Wallace K. and Patience Nave Scholarship Award (awarded for excellence in scholarship in English to a junior or senior)—Cheng Xi and Xiao Fangtian, 1986

Wood Graduate Award (awarded to a graduate student)—Nate Yoder, 1985; Beckie Hendrick, David Major, 1986

Bowling Green Rose Society Graduate English Scholarship Award (awarded to a graduate student writing a thesis)—Karen McDonald and David Major, 1985-86

Ladies Club Prose Award—Robert St. John, 1985; Alicia Neat, 1986

Geoffrey McCelvey Memorial Award for Poetry—Amy Wallace, 1985; Martha Zettlemoyer, 1986

Browning Literary Club Creative Writing Award for Poetry—Martha Zettlemoyer, 1985; Doug Logsdon, 1986.

## Southern Kentucky English Council

WKU's English department continues to provide leadership for English at different levels. Jim Flynn is immediate past president of SKEC, and Carol Lockhart is the current secretary.

SKEC's well-attended meeting on campus in September was about the first Kentucky Writing Institute, held last summer in Lexington. Three of the participants in the first institute were Gretchen Niva (WKU), Laura Fields Eason (Hodgenville schools and the WKU graduate program), and Nancy Moore (WKU and Warren East High School).

## Summer Writing Institute

The WKU English department, in cooperation with the Kentucky Department of Education and the National Writing Program, offered a 1986 Summer Writing Institute for 20 K-12 teachers of language arts, social studies, science and other subjects.

The institute is a cooperative in-service effort aimed at improving writing instruction at all levels and emphasizes writing as a process. Teachers write, discuss recent theories and research in the teaching of writing, prepare instructional materials and share their

own successful strategies for teaching composition.

On returning to their schools, participants will share their expertise with colleagues through formal in-service programs and individual consultations. The institute offers a stipend of \$500 and six hours of graduate credit.

Directors are John Hagaman and Gretchen Niva, and they will offer the Institute again in the summers 1987 and 1988.

## Wanted: Alumni News

We want to hear from our graduates, to help us maintain a current mailing list and to enable us to mention your activities in future editions of this newsletter. Please let us know what you are doing and what you think of this first edition.

## Sigma Tau Delta

Sigma Tau Delta, the English honor society, currently boasts a record membership of more than 20 students. STD is sponsored by Walker Rutledge and presided over by Tracy Ford (president), Christal Burden (vice-president), and Terri Pullen (secretary-treasurer).

Attending the biennial National Convention of STD in St. Louis in April were Rutledge, Tracy Ford, Sean Ragland, David Thorndale, LaNita Stinson, Tammy Oberhausen, Christal Burden, Cynthia Mathews, Alicia Neat and Cynthia Faust.

Terri Pullen was awarded a National STD scholarship of \$1000 at the convention.

## Status Changes

The departmental status of several faculty changed within the last year. **Edna Laman** was our first faculty member to take advantage of the new early retirement program, though she still teaches halftime for us. **John Hagaman** received tenure this year, his third year here. **Joe Boggs**, **Charmaine Mosby**, and **John Spurlock** were all promoted from associate to full professor.





# Department News

## New Writing Curriculum

The English department has designed a new general education writing curriculum. Students entering Western will take at least one writing course in their freshman, sophomore and junior years.

English 101 will be replaced by English 100, an accelerated course with a greater emphasis on writing from the first (minimum requirement: 4,000 words). In addition to mastering the mechanics of writing, English 100 students will be expected to improve in critical reading and thinking.

English 200 will replace our present 283. The new course will cover much the same literature as 283, but writing will receive new emphasis (minimum requirement: 3,000 words). In addition to its specifically literary aims, this course will reinforce the lessons of English 100.

English 300 will promote writing across the curriculum just as students move into their major studies. Readings in several fields will provide a wide range of writing assignments (5,000

words minimum). Students will also produce substantial research papers relevant to their intended majors and using the appropriate documentation.

This new general education writing curriculum has a number of important objectives. Extending English instruction

## The Writing Center and Engl. 055

Since its inception in 1973, the Writing Center has worked to support the Freshman English writing program through providing individualized help to freshmen. The lab enjoyed its busiest semester ever in the fall of 1985 with 1,045 student attendances.

Although the number of students served by English 055, Introduction to College English, has been declining because of rising student abilities, the course in basic writing should increase in effectiveness. Next semester 055 students will be required to attend the Writing Center twice a week.

*John Reiss*

over three years will reinforce writing skills that might otherwise be lost. Writing instruction will keep pace with students' general intellectual development. And the program supports Writing and Thinking Across the Curriculum. The junior-level course will prepare students to write about their upper-level studies, and this preparation will encourage departments to add more writing to major programs.

*(Information supplied by Joe Glaser.)*

## Gloria Naylor

Novelist Gloria Naylor was on campus in April. The author of *The Women of Brewster Place* and *Linden Hills* conducted an afternoon workshop and in the evening lectured on her writing, read from her work, and talked about her recent visit to India as a representative of the U.S. Department of Public Information. *Brewster Place* won the American Book Award for First Fiction in 1983.

Her visit follows the very successful visit of James Baldwin to Western in 1985.

## Writing and Thinking Across the Curriculum

The Task Force on Writing and Thinking Across the Curriculum, under the leadership of Jim Flynn, worked for three years studying the way writing was used at Western, examining the needs of students, researching writing across the curriculum programs at other universities, and sponsoring writing workshops for faculty.

Last spring the Task Force sent its proposal for a Writing Across the Curriculum Program to Vice-President Haynes, who approved it and appointed me as the director of the program for the next four years. He also appointed a steering committee to work with me to implement the program. The members of the steering committee are Carol Crowe Carraco, history; Stephen Jacobs, math; Joan Krenzin, sociology, anthropology and social work; Brian Sullivan, management and marketing; Rita Hessley, chemistry; Jim Flynn, English; and Beverly Veenker,

communication and theatre.

In February the steering committee presented the information about the program to the Academic Council. We propose that all departments in the University shall incorporate kinds of writing that stimulate critical thinking into their course offerings and that the quality of writing be reflected in the students' grades. Our purpose is two-fold: to improve students' ability to communicate their ideas in writing, and to use writing to increase comprehension in all subject areas. In order to meet both these goals, we have worked out a program which includes meeting with each department to examine how writing fits into its discipline's course offerings, helping develop writing assignments which encourage critical thinking, providing increased assistance to students in writing skills through the Writing Lab, and assisting faculty in the process of

evaluating writing so they can identify students' problems and give them assistance in correcting them.

In addition, because a significant number of Western's faculty believed that extra guidance in the realm of writing across the curriculum would assist both faculty and students, Chuck Meyer and I published *A Student's Guide to Writing Across the Curriculum*, a reference text which defines, describes and gives examples of a dozen most frequently assigned types of academic writing and which includes a section on grammar and usage.

Working with about 11 departments a year, beginning in the fall of 1986, we hope to have the Writing Across the Curriculum program in full swing within three years. After that, the existing administrative structure of the University will supervise and evaluate the program.

*Karen Pelz*



(continued)

**June Garrett** is teaching in the department of foreign languages at the Shanghai Institute of Mechanical Engineering in Shanghai, China. She is expected back in Bowling Green this summer, but may return to China for another academic year.

**Wanda Gatlin** interviewed Gloria Naylor, novelist, at a literary conference at Louisiana State University in late 1985. This interview served as the basis for a paper that Wanda delivered at the Popular Culture Conference in Atlanta in April.

**Joe Glaser** read a paper on "The Language of the Unheard: Popular Religion and Social Extremism in Early Seventeenth-Century England" at the annual meeting of the Popular Culture Association in the South in September. He read a paper "Goodfriday, 1613: A Soul's Form" at the Midwest Region Conference on Christianity and Literature at Notre Dame in October. The paper was published in *College Literature*. Joe read a paper at KPA in March on "Andrew Marvell and the Garlands of Repose." His bibliographical essay on "Thomas Wyatt" appeared in the recent *Research Guide to Biography and Criticism*. Joe also led a study trip to England this summer. JOE WAS THE RECIPIENT OF THE POTTER COLLEGE FACULTY EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR THE 1985-86 SCHOOL YEAR.

**Charles Guthrie** read a paper on "Early Kentucky Travel Writings" at KPA in March.

**John Hagaman** read a paper at the Penn State Conference on Rhetoric and Composition in 1985 on "Quintilian's 'Ideal' Orator: Model for the 'Ideal' Writer?" His review of Knoblauch and Brannon's *Rhetorical Traditions and the Teaching of Writing* appeared in the winter/spring, 1985, issue of the *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*. He chaired a section on "Theories of Discourse Across the Curriculum" at the Conference on College Composition and Communication in 1986 in New Orleans. His article "Modern Use of the Progymnasmata in Teaching Rhetorical Invention" will appear in *Rhetoric Review* later this year. He will read "An Historical Perspective: Relationships Between Rhetorical Invention and the Psychology of Thinking" at the Rhetoric Society of American Conference in Dallas in 1986. His proposal for a monograph on classical rhetoric and composition teaching has been accepted by the Modern Language Association.

**Jim Heldman** will deliver a paper "Where is Jane Austen in *The Watsons*?" at the annual meeting of the Jane Austen Society of North America in September, 1986, in Vancouver, B.C. Jim will be on sabbatical next year researching a study of novelist John Fowles.

**Ward Hellstrom** organized an exhibition at the Kentucky Museum on Victorian Childhood. The catalog was published this year under the title *Children and Childhood in the Nineteenth Century*.

**Wanella Huddleston** participated in a program in November in Clarksville, Tenn.: "A Hometown Symposium: Evelyn Scott and Caroline Gordon." The paper she presented for this event, "Archy: The Overlooked Hero of Caroline Gordon's *Green Centuries*," is to be published in the proceedings. Wanella presented a paper "A Look Back: Reflections on Caroline Gordon's Refinement of Her Craft" at a meeting of the Philological Association of the Carolinas in March. She also is now certified to serve on teacher committees for the Kentucky Beginning Teacher Internship Program.

**Pauline Jones**, after serving as director of the ninth annual High School Competition in April, will teach in a writing workshop for Kentucky Circuit Judges in Frankfurt in May.

**Edna Laman** was our first faculty member to take advantage of the new early retirement option. However, she continues to teach courses in our general education program with her notable enthusiasm and high standards. Edna also helps us out on several committees, and she seems to be working as hard as she did before retirement.

**Lee Little** recently reviewed Martha Kolln's *Understanding English Grammar* for Macmillan and is included among the author's acknowledgements in her second edition of the textbook. A summary of

Lee's analysis of relative pronouns in the first 20 sermons of Aelfric's *Catholic Homilies* is included in Bruce Mitchell's *Old English Syntax* (Oxford University Press, 1985).

**Carol Lockhart** served as a judge for the annual Warren East Optimist Club Speech Contest held at Warren East High School in March.

**Brenda Martin** read a paper on "Eudora Welty's Web of Metaphors in 'A Worn Path'" at KPA in March. Her paper won "best of section."

**George McCelvey** presented a paper "Reflections of the Servant Class in the Eighteenth-Century Novel" at the annual meeting of the Popular Culture Association in the South in September. His bibliographical essay on "William Godwin" appeared in the recent *Research Guide to Biography and Criticism*.

**Bill McMahon's** article "Grass and Its Mate in 'Song of Myself'" was published in the *South Atlantic Review* (Jan., 1986). He read a version of the paper at SAMLA in November. His article "Hart Crane's Mask: T.S. Eliot" has been accepted for publication by *Modern Age*.

**Dorothy McMahon's** paper "From Bleak House to Ulysses" was judged the best paper in the

## Tom Jones

Thomas Gilmer Jones, Jr., 47, assistant professor of English at WKU since 1963, died at his home April 8, following a brief illness.

A past chairman of the WKU Faculty Senate, Jones also organized the Kentucky Congress of Senate Faculty Leaders, a statewide lobbying group, and served as its president from 1979 to 1981. His publications included a short story, "A Family Privation," published in *Georgia Review*, and a novel, *A Field of Thistle*.

The family has requested that expressions of sympathy take the form of donations to the Thomas G. Jones Scholarship Fund, College Heights Foundation, Western Kentucky University.

English Literature section of the 1985 Midwest Modern Language Association meeting. Therefore, she was named to chair a session for the 1986 meeting. The topic she has selected for 1986 papers is "Privileged Centers of Interpretation."

**Chuck Meyer** has taken a job for next year at the University of Massachusetts at Boston. Chuck regrets leaving all of his friends in our department, but the research opportunities of his new position became a deciding factor. It will be hard to replace him with someone of comparable knowledge and enthusiasm.

**Joe Millichap** contributed the chapter on Carson McCullers to *The History of Southern Literature*, a collective work by 50 scholars sponsored by the Society for the Study of Southern Literature and published by Louisiana State University Press. His bibliographical articles on "Carson McCullers" and "John Steinbeck" appeared in the recent *Research Guide to Biography and Criticism*. He contributed five short essays on contemporary Scandinavian films by Ingmar Bergman and others to the new *Survey of Cinema*. Two short articles on Lonne Elder and Calder Willingham appeared in the *Dictionary of Literary Biography: American Screenwriters* (Vol. 44).

In recognition of his writing accomplishments, Joe's biography was included in the most recent volume of *Contemporary Authors*.

This year Joe presented papers on Robert Penn Warren for the Christianity and Literature Conference at Notre Dame and on John Steinbeck

and documentary photography at the University of Louisville's Twentieth Century Literature Conference. This summer, he gave a presentation on "Contemporary Management Theory and the English Department" for the Association of Departments of English Summer Seminar at Ohio State University which will be published in *The ADE Bulletin*. At KPA he was elected president of the Kentucky Association of Departments of English, the state organization of English department administrators, and selected to the South Atlantic ADE administrative committee.

**Russell Moore** edited the English Department Newsletter. He also spoke on "How to Succeed in College, Especially in English Classes" to English classes at Caverna High School and Warren Central High School.

**Charmaine Mosby** attended the Southern Letters and Modern Literature Conference at LSU and "A Hometown Symposium: Evelyn Scott and Caroline Gordon" in Clarksville, Tenn. She read a paper at KPA in March on "The Lady and Her Foils: *Women in Virginia*." She has had a paper on "Tom Wicker's *Facing the Lion* and the Southern Politician" accepted by the *Southern Literary Journal*.

**Loretta Murray** spoke to the South Central Kentucky Historical and Genealogical Society on "The History of the English Language." She recently wrote a one-act play, "Travelers Just Passing Through," dealing with a Frank and Jesse James legend. She is compiling a book of student writings dealing with the oral history of South Central Kentucky.

**Pat Nave** will complete her B.A. degree in English in May of this year, a goal toward which she has been working for the past 10 years. Her resignation from her position as a senior departmental secretary in the English department was tendered in order that she may enter the graduate program in the fall. She has been granted a graduate assistantship, and she will enter the English as a Second Language master's program.

As a graduating senior, she was named to Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities, spring 1986, as one of the university's first "non-traditional" student recipients of this award.

Last summer Pat was chosen from applicants from all over the United States to serve with a California-based firm, English Language Institute/China, as a teaching assistant for an English as a Foreign Language Intensive Institute in Chengdu, Sichuan, People's Republic of China. Since her return to Kentucky, she has spoken to approximately 15 clubs, civic organizations, school groups, and churches on aspects of living and teaching in China. She also had an article accepted for publication in the *Kentucky TESOL Newsletter*: "Teaching ESL in China" (VII/3, 5-6, 1986).

**Gretchen Niva** has been appointed by Superintendent of Public Instruction Alice McDonald to serve until December, 1988, on the Writing Program Advisory Committee which was established during the 1985 special session of the Kentucky General Assembly. The committee will analyze the program of studies for grades 7-10 and will recommend options to the state board of education for including an intensive writing program. Also, the committee will recommend methods for integrating writing into the curriculum and will develop teacher training programs designed to facilitate effective teaching of writing in the schools.

Gretchen participated in the annual meeting of the Southeastern Conference on English in the Two-Year College in Memphis in February and in the 50th annual conference of KCTE in Louisville in March. She is executive secretary of KCTE.

**Karen Pelz** has co-authored *A Student's Guide to Writing Across the Curriculum* with Chuck Meyer and is co-authoring an interview/article on "Writing in Red Oak: What First Graders Can Do" with four first-grade teachers from Iowa. She is also the director of WKU's Writing and Thinking Across the Curriculum program. Karen continues to teach

(continued)



(continued)

summer writing institutes for the Iowa public schools.

**Frances Perdue** read a paper on "A Southern Mandarin at Work" at KPA in March.

**John Reiss** attended the Conference on College Composition and Communication in New Orleans in March, and attended a conference on computers and writing labs later this spring.

**Alice Rowe** has been appointed to the Board of Directors of Friends of KET for the counties of Allen, Barren, Butler, Edmonson, Simpson and Warren.

**Walker Rutledge** made a presentation "What is Uniquely American about American Literature" at the WKU Honors Leadership Conference in November. More than 70 outstanding high school students from throughout the state attended the conference. Walker led a summer study trip to England, and is on sabbatical this fall.

**Janet Schwarzkopf** teaches an English 102 honors course that is coordinated with a class in the art department. This course was developed as a result of her Art Study tour of Italy during the summer of 1984. She also presented a program on her Art Study Tour to the Honors Forum in March.

**Barbara Seeger** is now in her fourth year as a part-time secretary in the department. Her daughter, Julie, is a student at Western.

**Marthalee Spears** has an article on "What Writing in the Professions Can Tell Us about Freshman Composition" being considered for publication.

**John Spurlock** has recently completed his Ph.D. at the University of Louisville. His book manuscript, "A Sociocultural and Rhetoric Analysis of Jesse Stuart's Fiction," is being considered for publication. On April 3, John, along with Dorsey Grice and Jim Wayne Miller, presented "Kentucky Is My Land: A Jesse Stuart 80th Birthday Celebration," a program of Stuart readings at WKU. On October 2, 1986, John, along with Jim Wayne Miller of WKU and Harold E. Richardson of the University of Louisville and Ruel E. Foster of West Virginia University will present "His Place, His People," a panel discussion of Stuart's life and works at WKU's Kentucky Building. Both Stuart presentations are sponsored by the Jesse Stuart Foundation. John will be on sabbatical this fall working on a book analyzing Jesse Stuart's newspaper work.

**Frank Steele** last summer did a poetry reading for a creative writing class in the Governor's Scholars' session on campus, taught in the program for Verbally and Mathematically Precocious Youth (Vampy), and published the Southern Women's

Issue of *Plainsong*. Last fall Frank gave a couple of talks on creativity to English majors and to writing minors, had an exhibition at the Capitol Arts Center which combined a display of poems with a display of paintings by Marcia Heidbrink, and had a poem accepted for a forthcoming issue of *The American Voice*, which Sallie Bingham is helping to edit in Louisville. The poem-painting exhibition resulted in publication of a booklet entitled *New Works*, funded by the National Endowment for the Arts. This spring Frank has been working on another issue of *Plainsong* and on a book-length collection of his own poems.

**Peggy Steele** has had three poems published recently: "Grandma Clicks Her Needles" in *American Voice* and "Rainy Nights" and "Family Business" in *Number One*.

**Joe Survant** has had two poems published recently: "Heidegger Fishing" in *Journal of Evolutionary Psychology*, and "Aborlept" in *Kentucky Poetry Review*. Three more poems will be published in *Farmer's Market* and another in *Appalachian Heritage*. He had a group of photographs included in an exhibit in the Houchens Gallery at the Capitol Arts Center in January. They were photos of scenes from a wall mural in the Temple of the Emerald Buddha in Bangkok. The photos came out of Joe's experience as a Senior Fulbright Lecturer in American Literature at the University Sains Malaysia in 1984 in Penang, Malaysia. He is now working on a book of poems drawn from his experiences in Malaysia. Joe also read a paper on "Cosmic Time in 'A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man' and 'Ulysses'" at KPA in March. His paper won "best of section" and will be published.

**Pat Taylor** attended the first Classics in Context Festival featuring Moliere and his works at Actors Theatre of Louisville in January. The weekend consisted of two plays and two films, plus guest lecturers from the Yale School of Drama, Cornell, and the Sorbonne. Pat participated in acting out scenes from John Lewter's unfinished play, *Welcome Signs*, during the seminar on "Interpreting Dramatic Literature" sponsored by the WKU English Department in September.

**Pia Walters** completed her Ph.D. in Inter-Disciplinary Studies (English-Philosophy-Sociology) at Michigan State University during the fall term '85. Her dissertation: "Moral Questions in the Life and Work of Lillian Hellman." She read a paper on "Autobiography and Its Critical Interpretation" at Michigan State during the fall term. This spring she has read a paper on "Greek Epic and Lyric Poetry" to a meeting of Sigma Tau Delta and had a poem

("Mother") published in *Moving Out*, a feminist literary and arts journal published in Detroit (Vol. 12, numbers 1 and 2, Jan./Feb. 1986). She is currently drafting a proposal for a Women's Studies curriculum at WKU and was asked to teach in last summer's Governor's Scholarship Program at Centre College. Pia read a paper on Lillian Hellman at KPA in March.

**Bob and Catherine Ward** visited Ireland during July 1985. In Dublin, they conferred with members of the O'Connor family concerning the Wards' one-volume edition of the letters of Charles O'Connor of Belanagare (1731-1790), to be published by the Catholic University of America Press in 1987. They contributed a paper to the Sixth Triennial Conference of the International Association for the Study of Irish Literature Conference held at Queen's University of Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Bob has been listed in the 18th and 19th editions of *Who's Who in the South and Southwest*. His reviews of *Sean O'Casey and His Critics*, an *Annotated Bibliography*, by E.H. Mikhail, and *A Descriptive Catalog of W.B. Yeats' Library*, by Edward O'Shea appeared in *Eire-Ireland*. His review of Daithi O'Hogain's *The Irish Hero in Irish Folk History* will appear in the annual, *The Eighteenth Century, A Current Bibliography*.

Bob read a paper "Abraham Cowley's 'New Trim'd-up' Cutter of Coleman Street" at the 12th annual conference of the Southeastern American Society for 18th-century Studies at the University of South Carolina in February.

Catherine presented a paper on the Dantean parallels in Gloria Naylor's *Linden Hills* at a Conference on Black Women Writers at Michigan State in October. This paper has been accepted for publication by *Contemporary Literature*. She participated in a seminar on Gloria Naylor at the Popular Culture meeting in Atlanta in April.

**Bob Wurster** spoke to the Universalist-Unitarian Fellowship last fall on "Toxic Myths." He was guest speaker for the fall graduating class of volunteers for Bowling Green Hospice. The topic was "Using One's Full Potentials of Being a Human Being." Bob spoke in February to the residents of Bemis Lawrence Hall on "Loving and Being Loved" and to Parents Without Partners on "Potentials of Being a Full Human Being." He spoke in March to a folklore class on campus on the Cajun culture of Louisiana. Bob will teach in Belize in the fall semester, 1986.

5/86/1M/EWKU—Printing paid from state funds, KRS 57.375.

# ENGLISH DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

Western Kentucky University  
Bowling Green, KY 42101

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

The Western Kentucky University English Department Newsletter is a non-profit publication designed to encourage an exchange of ideas about the teaching, learning and practical applications of English. Contributions to the newsletter in any form or style are solicited and will be considered for publication. Send manuscripts and all other correspondence to Editor, WKU English Department Newsletter, WKU, Bowling Green, KY 42101.

Department Head: Joe Millichap  
Director of Freshman English: Joe Glaser  
Graduate Advisor: Lee Little  
Undergraduate Advisor: Charmaine Mosby  
Newsletter Editor: Russell Moore

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U. S. POSTAGE  
BULK RATE  
PERMIT 398  
BOWLING GREEN,  
KY. 42101